



(WO/2005/015121) STYLUS TIP FOR WORKPIECE CONTACTING PROBE

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Applicants: RENISHAW PLC [GB/GB]; New Mills, Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire GL112 8JR (GB) (All Except US).

LEWICKA-SCHAFER, Magdalena [GB/GB]; 44 Hopkins Close, Thornbury, Bristol South, Gloucestershire BS35 2PX (GB) (US Only).

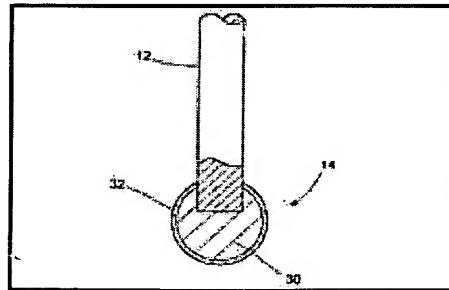
Inventor: LEWICKA-SCHAFER, Magdalena [GB/GB]; 44 Hopkins Close, Thornbury, Bristol South, Gloucestershire BS35 2PX (GB).

Agent: JACKSON, John, Timothy; Renishaw plc, Patent Department, New Mills, Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire GL12 8JR (GB).

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Title: STYLUS TIP FOR WORKPIECE CONTACTING PROBE

Abstract: A stylus (12) for a workpiece contacting probe has a tip (14) which comprises a self-lubricating or low friction material, in order to inhibit debris generation or adhesive wear (pick up) as the tip scans a workpiece surface. Various materials are described, including composites having a solid state lubricant incorporated into a dimensionally stable microstructure. The tip (14) may be made entirely of such a composite, or may have a substrate (30) with a coating (32) of the self-lubricating or low friction material. Suitable materials are silicon carbide or silicon nitride containing free graphite hexagonal boron nitride, molybdenum sulphide or metallic tin, furthermore silicon carbide/nitrite impregnated with PTFE, or annealed boron carbide.



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